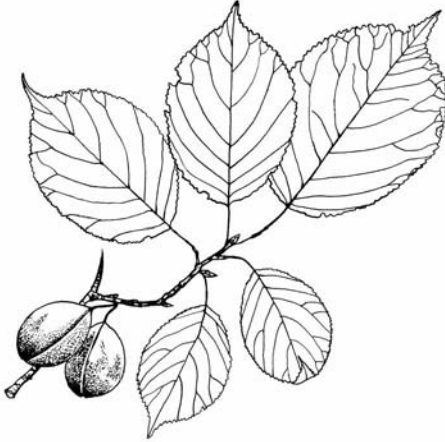


CANADA PLUM

Prunus nigra Ait.

Canada or red plum, although not native, is a common tree throughout the state except in Washington, Lincoln and Sagadahoc Counties or in densely forested areas. It usually occurs in thickets and is seldom found over 8 inches in diameter and 30 feet high. The twigs and branches of cherry and plum trees are distorted by the



black knot fungus, *Apiosporina morbosa*. The **bark** is thin, dull reddish brown to black, peeling in thin papery scales, and exposing the shiny reddish brown, inner bark. The **leaves** are alternate, egg-shaped in outline, and taper at the apex to a long sharp point. Dark green on the upper surface, lighter below; margin with glandular, rounded teeth. The **flowers** are white and appear early in the spring before the leaves in groups of three or four on slender stalks. The **fruit** ripens the latter part of August, is football-shaped and furrowed along one side, has an orange-red skin and yellow flesh. The single stone is flattened and slightly grooved on the edges. Fruit is edible. The **twigs** and **branches** often have thorns. The buds are brown to gray and are without hairs. The **wood** is not used commercially except as an ornamental tree.

BEACH PLUM

Prunus maritima Marsh.

Beach plum is a low shrub commonly found east to Knox County in localized coastal areas on sea beaches and dunes. The leaves are ovate to elliptic, acute or obtuse at the tip, teeth without glands, smooth above and hairy below. The flowers are white. The fruit is globose, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, purple or red, with a bloom, and makes a delicious jelly. The fruit stone is round. The twigs and buds have velvet-like hairs.